



PAUL CUNNINGHAM

WARD 2

July 15, 2016

WARD 2 COUNCIL OFFICE
7575 E SPEEDWAY
791-4687
WARD2@TUCSONAZ.GOV

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PAUL'S NOTE

In light of last week's events in Dallas, I just wanted to share a letter Chief Christopher Magnus sent to his officers a few days ago:

Dear TPD Personnel:

Over the past several days, you've once again given me multiple reasons to be proud of our department. This is not an easy time to be a police officer, although if we're honest about it, there has never been a time when policing was simple, completely safe, or without its detractors.

What so many members of our community and I appreciate is that despite some very frightening incidents, like the recent shootings in Dallas, you continue to serve the

public with courtesy, respect, and kindness. You understand that it is possible for people to be deeply troubled by—even to protest—certain high profile cases involving the police elsewhere without mistaking these concerns as an indictment or criticism of you personally, or the work you do. You also realize that the most important part of our job is to protect the Constitutional rights of everyone—no matter what their views or perspective may be. That's just what we as Tucson Police do—and we do it very well.

On Friday, several local African American leaders and others came together with us to acknowledge that even while there are

*real issues we must continue to work on with our minority communities, **we are in a partnership to accomplish this work.** We have open lines of communication; we are listening to each other; and we have mutual respect for one another. The fact that we could hold a joint press conference to make these points, especially after such a difficult week, is a credit to the relationships you have built and your professional approach to policing.*

Then on Saturday, a group of several hundred community members participated in a protest/gathering to demand policing reforms and greater police accountability. While these protests seemed largely focused on

PAUL'S NOTE, CONTINUED

national events, we were able to acknowledge that we can do better right here in Tucson. We are working to make our complaint process more timely and efficient, to improve our training in procedural justice and de-escalation tactics, to be as accountable as possible in tracking and evaluating how we use force, and to do more to recruit a diverse pool of well qualified candidates for positions within the department. These things are part of good 21st Century Constitutional policing and we're an agency that believes in continuous improvement—always striving to be the best we can be.

*During the local protest, we were able to keep the peace and avoid conflict even when emotions ran high on some of these issues. In some places, the police responded to protests of this type with a very “us versus them” approach, hostilities and frustrations among the officers working the events were evident, and the results seemed to drive some residents and police even further apart from one another. **That was not the case here.** Our officers who worked the protests were tactically smart and well prepared, but they were also patient and approachable. I place a premium on that kind of professionalism.*

Your role in representing our agency, no matter what your assignment or rank, is very important. I appreciate that you are able to make officer safety a high priority without losing focus of how important it is to treat people in a friendly, considerate, and thoughtful way. This is not easy, but all of us knew we were not taking on jobs that would be simple.

*The weeks and months ahead, especially as we head into a highly contentious election season, are not likely to be without challenges. You will continue to encounter difficult situations, emotions that sometimes run high, and folks with a wide range of opinions about how we should be doing our jobs. It is important to remember, every community member is one of OUR constituents. **We work for them.** Hearing them out, treating them the way we'd like to be treated, and being smart in how we do our jobs is what good policing is all about.*

It is my privilege to work with you and I highly value your many contributions to both our agency and our city. Keep up the great job!

*Regards,
Chief Chris Magnus*

CITY POOLS

With record heat upon us and little relief from the heat over the next several days, it's a good time to stay cool in a pool. The City of Tucson's Parks and Recreation department has 18 pools open for public use over the summer. Be sure to bring plenty of sunscreen with you. The summer pool schedule is in effect until Aug. 3. Admission is \$2 for adults and, beginning on July 17, **free for those 17 and younger**. Summer and annual passes also are available. View a listing of the pools and operating hours at the link below. You also can cool off at the Catalina Park splash pad at 900 N. Fourth Ave. or the Marty Birdman Center/Balboa Heights Park splash pad, 2536 N. Castro Ave. Both splash pads have manual activation systems that allow residents to turn on the water features as desired, and they also have playgrounds. The splash pads are operational through the end of October, 8 a.m. until dusk.

For more information, visit <https://www.tucsonaz.gov/parks/pools-and-splash-pads>

UDALL SOLAR

Councilman Paul Cunningham and Tucson Parks and Recreation invite you to an informational open house at the Udall Center regarding a new solar project

Representatives from Tucson Parks, Ward 2 and Technicians for Sustainability will be on hand to answer questions and take suggestions on the project which will put shade structures/solar panels in the parking lot at the Carol West Senior Addition.

The open house will be on Tuesday, August 2nd, 5:30 pm at the Udall Center, Room 1 - 3

CAROL WEST SENIOR CENTER

Movie: Movie and lunch at Park Place on Tuesday, July 26. Departure from the center is 9:30 a.m. and return is 2:00 p.m. The cost is \$5.25.

Forum Happy Hour: Happy Hour at the Forum of Tucson on Friday, July 22. Departure from center is 3:30 p.m. and return is 6:30 p.m. The event will include drinks, food, and entertainment.

Are You Smarter than a Fifth Grader?: A "Smarter than a 5th Grader Challenge" will be held on Wednesday, July 13 at 11:45 a.m. Test brain power against the eldest KIDCO participants. Subjects include Math, Science, Social Studies, Art, History, and English. Lunch included. The cost is \$3.00.

July Wellness Hour: For the month of July, seniors will have an opportunity to participate in additional day of wellness on Fridays from 9:05 a.m. to 10:05 a.m.

Please contact the Carol West Senior Addition, 791-4121 for questions.

PARKS PROGRAMS

Summer Track and Field: Summer track and field will be offered every Tuesday through July 19 at Catalina High School (2645 E Pima). Registration is \$4 for adults and \$3 for youth 17 years and younger. On-site registration will be at 5:45 with events beginning at 6:30. Events will include the short distance runs and relays, including a 50 meter dash for participants five and under. Field events include long jump, javelin, shot put and high jump. Ribbons will go to track meet finishers.

Summer Swim: Pools open for Summer through August 4. Fall (year-round) swim schedule will be on August 4. For more City pool information call 791-4245 or 791-5352.

Closures: Udall Center will be closed for annual maintenance beginning August 8 through 13. The Sabino Canyon Road extension project work will require western entrance to be Udall Park to be closed for 2-3 weeks.

Call 791-4877 for more information or questions.

**PAUL CUNNINGHAM,
CITY COUNCIL, WARD 2**

Eastside City Hall
7575 E Speedway
Tucson AZ 85710

Phone: 520 791 4687
Fax: 520 791 5380
E-mail: ward2@tucsonaz.gov

Tucsonaz.gov/
ward2

Remember to like
Paul on Facebook!

Please bring these items to the Ward 2 Office
for the following charities:

**THE COMMUNITY FOOD BANK—Non Perishable
Items**

**DIAPER BANK OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA—
Infant/Child/Adult Diapers**

**TIHAN - Personal Care Items for Individuals
and Families in Need**

LIONS CLUB—Eye Glasses

**DANCING IN THE STREETS ARIZONA—Ballet/
Dance Equipment**

CASA MARIA—Plastic bags

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Due to the July 4 holiday, the next Mayor and Council meeting will be on **Tuesday, August 9**. Regular Session starts at 5:30 pm following an afternoon study session. There is always a short call to the audience before the business portion of the meeting. Council chambers are located downtown at 255 W Alameda.

The agendas for the meetings are posted online at <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/clerks/mcdocs>

